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المجلس الإسلامي

Islamic Council

4 March 1994

Mr Gaspar Biro
Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in Sudan
Office no D211

Dear Mr Biro,

Human rights are an integral part of the Islamic faith. This led the Islamic Council to prepare and publish the UNIVERSAL ISLAMIC DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, which is based entirely on the Qur'an and the Sunnah.

This Declaration was proclaimed at an international conference held on 19 September 1981 at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, which was attended by many eminent Muslim and other personalities from all over the world, and was opened by the Director of UNESCO. I am sending you copies of the Declaration by post.

In view of our interest in this subject, we were shocked to have drawn to our attention your report condemning and calling for the abolition of Hudud and Qisas, which are basic to the Shari'ah and the Islamic faith. You will see from articles IV and V of the Declaration that an individual's rights are well protected, and that the punishment must fit the crime. Hudud and Qisas are stipulated in the Qur'an and the Sunnah and cannot be abrogated. To call for their abolition is to deny a fundamental tenet of Islam and is completely unacceptable to any Muslim.

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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